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ABSTRACT

Valentine's Day activities which include a play, music, poetry, and numerous art and craft projects are presented in this compilation from February issues of "Instructor" magazine. The short and easy projects, suitable for primary and elementary students, use inexpensive and easily found materials such as paper, cloth, yarn, magazine pictures, clay, and plastic container covers. In addition to the many projects which involve designing Valentine's Day cards, instructions are given for making mobiles, picture frames, pendants, sculptures, plant holders, boxes, wall hangings, plaques, and batiks. The short Valentine's Day play, set in the year 2100, has a science fiction theme. In addition to one song, a music learning activity is provided. The poetry activity is designed to help students compose verses for their Valentine cards. (EM)

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[VALENTINE'S DAY ACTIVITIES COMPILED FROM ELEVEN YEARS OF FEBRUARY ISSUES OF INSTRUCTOR MAGAZINE, 1973-1983]

Compiled by

San Mateo County Office of Education, Redwood City, CA.,

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Art in hearts

COTTON SWAB A CUPID

When the subject is art, anything is possible! This valentine was "painted" with a cotton swab dipped in white paint. A saturated swab makes very effective round dots when it is applied to the paper with a stamping motion. To paint lines, pull or push swab across paper's surface, using it just as you would a brush.

IREENE ROBBINS

HEART-OF-HEARTS HANGING

Using as many different textures as possible, cut and combine heart shapes. Create your own textures with rubbing, string-painting, and encaustic techniques. For 3-D effects, fold some hearts forward and use crumpled tissue paper to fill-in others. Try felt and metallic paper too.

PRISCILLA ELLISON teaches at Vidor Elementary School, Vidor, Texas.

INSTRUCTOR v82 no p191-92 Feb. 1973

BE MINE BATIK

This design is drawn with red crayon on red paper. (Apply crayon heavily.) A wash of half water and half white tempera is brushed over design. When dry, work can be mounted on other paper and embellished with added paint or cut paper if the artist wishes.

IREENE ROBBINS

Fanciful friends

GIVE that special person a special valentine "pet." Collect round cardboard boxes like those containing salt and oatmeal. Cut bodies from these curved forms. Paint them with tempera. Then add heads cut from lightweight cardboard. Trim with additional cutout paper hearts and pieces of paper doilies. Tie a small folded tag around pet's neck, bearing your personal valentine greeting.

JAMES W. PERRIN, JR. teaches third grade at Boulevard School, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

FEBRUARY

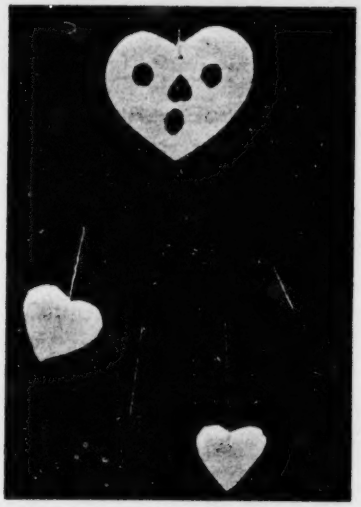
CRAFT IDEAS FILE

SELECTED BY **DIANE CRANE**

Harry Happyheart

THIS bright paper mobile will give any classroom a holiday air. Each heart is cut double by holding together one sheet of red and one sheet of white paper. They are assembled by sandwiching short lengths of string between glued-together hearts.

GERTRUDE KLINK McMURDY



Love Is—

CREATE a vertical "thought hanging" with squares of paper linked by loops of yarn tied through punched holes. Add a bit of texture and shine by "framing" with circles of glued yarn or metallic cord. Tie on a cutout shape to mark the end.

JACQUELINE KOURY

INSTRUCTOR v83 n6 p118-119 Feb. 1974

Bendable Cherry Trees

WHETHER teachers like it or not, cherry trees still seem to be associated with George Washington. In this cut-paper version cherries are snips of yarn. Branches can be moved to vary the design, as they are attached with paper fasteners.

JACQUELINE KOURY

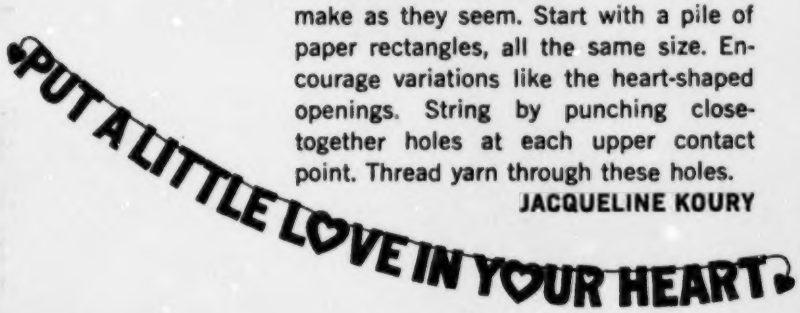
Poke and Sew Valentine

USE a discarded ballpoint pen to punch a pattern of holes in a plastic-foam meat tray. Stitch through holes with a blunt yarn needle threaded with red yarn. This makes a good "starting stitchery" project. **JAMES W. PERRIN**

String-Along Sentences

CUTOUT letters are not as difficult to make as they seem. Start with a pile of paper rectangles, all the same size. Encourage variations like the heart-shaped openings. String by punching close-together holes at each upper contact point. Thread yarn through these holes.

JACQUELINE KOURY



Party Pretty

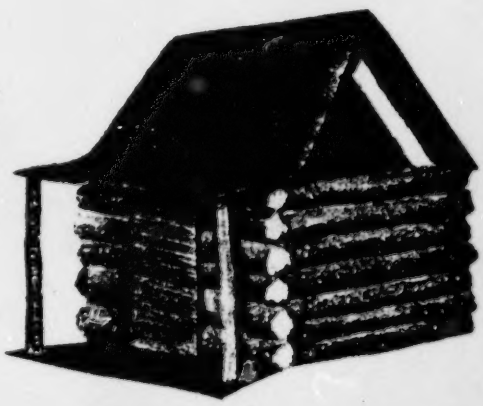
FILL this basket with small candies to make an edible valentine. Construct by gluing half a three-inch section of cardboard tube between two tagboard hearts. Add paper handle and decorative hearts. Cover tube with white paper if necessary.

ELLEN WISE

Pretzels for Pioneers

WITH stale pretzels donated by a local firm, pint milk cartons (rinsed and dried), staples, glue, and brown paper, one third grade made log cabins for Lincoln's birthday. Staple cartons, shut. Glue on pretzel "logs," paper roof, doors, and windows.

VIRGINIA GARLAND



Hearts in musical measure

ELVA S. DANIELS

Tis the season of St. Valentine, when hearts rule supreme. Red ones or pink, large or small, paper or lace—your pupils are probably busy with heart shapes. Let their artistic efforts help develop a few musical concepts.

You might like to use a pop song for your theme—"Love Makes the World Go 'Round," a pleasant little waltz from the David Merrick production *Carnival*. The sheet music is available at any commercial outlet and a glance will prove the lyrics are acceptable for children to sing. Let paper hearts help children understand the grouping of accents in this song; help them picture the one—two, three; one—two, three rhythm. Use red and pink hearts cut from construction paper. Staple a pipe cleaner to back of heart, and then tape pipe cleaner to a ruler. Voila! Every child has a valentine concept-builder.

Let the children with red hearts represent the accents, raising their rulers high on beat one, while the children with pink hearts raise their rulers on the two unaccented beats, held shoulder high. Be sure to have a small group of children stand and observe the pattern this makes. Ask for other ideas from the class.

Do you know of the old familiar scale song—"I Know a Pussy Willow" ("her coat is silver gray, she lives down in the meadow . . .")—substitute valentine words, using the following or creating your own lines with the class. "I have a little Valentine / As you can plainly see / It came inside an envelope / That was addressed to me / The mailman brought it to my house / (He knew just where to come) / When I came home I found it, now I / Wonder who it's from / Guess, guess, guess. . . . Since the scale song uses the eight tones of the major scale from one to eight, use eight hearts. Perhaps you would like each heart to be a bit larger than the preceding to show the differences of the pitches as you sing up and down the scale. The eight hearts can have a thread-loop stapled to the back, and these could be hung on a pegboard, if one is available. Older children may want to place the pitches in their proper relationships, to show the half and whole steps in the major scale. Young children may be satisfied to use felt hearts, placing them relatively higher (or lower) each time on the flannel board.

Valentine hearts can help children visualize the tones of the tonic chord. Teach the following song, A below, and then make a large red heart, a small red heart, a medium-size pink heart, and a slightly smaller white heart. It is also possible to use four red hearts of the same size, labeling one C, another G, then E, and C again, representing the pitch names for the tonic chord in the key of C-major. Distribute the four resonator bells in random order, and let your class discover which bell should play first, second, third, and fourth to correspond to the melody of the song. Now arrange the hearts this way.

At another time, you may want to "scramble" the four beats in a different order—perhaps low C, E, G, high C (the reverse order), or high C, E, G, low C. Try to sing your new arrangement without the bells, then check to see if you sang it correctly. Children can also find these pitches at the piano if very small hearts are lightly gummed to piano keys C, E, G, and C.

Sing the familiar American folk tune—"Darlin', You Can't Love One"—and devise rhythms to fit the measures containing three-quarter rests. Song B below, attach a heart to a yardstick, and tap it against a desk, the board, or the door. As you proceed to sing about TWO, add another heart, and change the rhythm. Keep adding until you are finished with as many verses as you can devise.

. . . you can't love ONE
and still have fun

. . . you can't love TWO
and still be true

. . . you can't love THREE
and still love me

. . . you can't love FOUR
and still have more

. . . you can't love FIVE
and stay alive

. . . you can't love SIX
and still play tricks

Use other valentine heart ideas to develop musical concepts to decorate your room! □

ELVA S. DANIELS is associate professor, College of Music, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

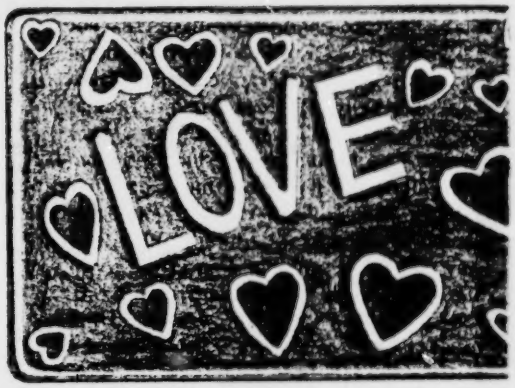
A
My heart goes BLING BLANG BLONG BLOHM When I hear from you.
When I hear from you. When I hear from you. My heart goes BLING BLANG
BLONG BLOHM When I hear from you, So won't you send me a val-en - tine.
B
Dar-lin', you can't love_ ONE
Dar-lin', you can't love_ ONE
Can't love ONE and_ still have fun, Oh dar-lin', you can't love ONE.

INSTRUCTOR v84 n6 p46 Feb. 1975

Crafty ideas

A VALENTINE GIFT

Red and white yarn is glued around an empty can to make a pencil holder. Add one or two pencils with taped-on paper-heart decoration for an extra-useful valentine. *JAMES PERRIN*



PRETTY PLAQUES

Remove edges of a plastic foam meat tray and use a toothpick or blunt pencil to draw design lightly on foam. Deepen design with a nail or out-of-ink ball-point pen. Then color entire flat surface with watercolor-type felt-tip marker. For brighter color in some areas, use several coats of marker.
DORIS BREIHOLZ

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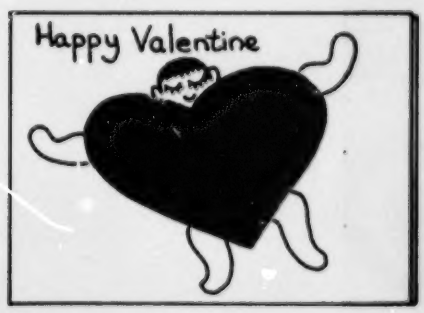
SPRIGHTLY "SPRINGERS"

Attach folded paper "springs" to a large paper heart. Add contrasting heart-shaped features, feet and/or hands to make a gay dancing figure. Suspend several from doweling or a coat hanger for a mobile to hang above your heater or in any drafty spot.
JAMES PERRIN

POCKET FULL OF LOVE

Paper figures are dressed in current teenage style with cutout clothing. The large paper-heart "pocket" is added by gluing down only its two outside edges. Then a Valentine message is printed on note-size paper, folded, and slipped into pocket. *HELEN ROSE*



HEART FOLK

Plastic packing "squiggles" are used for legs and arms on this Valentine person with the soft foam "button" head. Heart-shaped body is cut from pink or red construction paper. *RUTH BYERS*

Send a heart

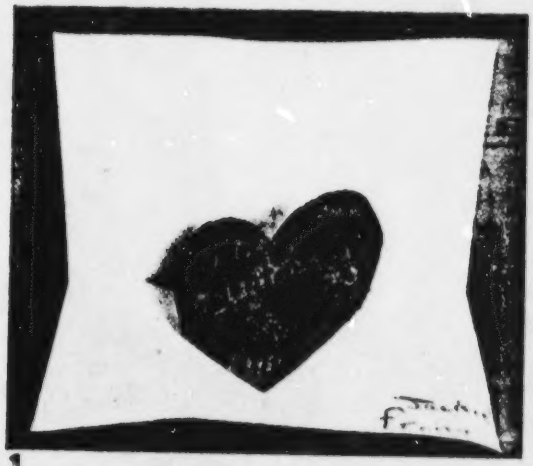
1 For this pop-up greeting, fold paper in half. Decorate card front so recipient will open it correctly. Cut a heart from colored paper. Decorate front, and tape a piece of thread to back, extending ½" at the bottom and 6" at the top. Tape the short piece of thread to the bottom inside of card. Tape end of long piece to top inside of card. **Beatrice Bachrach**

2 Valentine doll uses paper-mache over a Styrofoam-ball head and plastic-bottle body. White paint covers the single layer of mache. Eyes, mouth, feet, and large paper heart greeting are cut from red paper. Arms and hands are heavy white paper. Hair and tie are red yarn. **James W. Perrin, Jr.**

3 Brighten your Valentine's life with this heart-covered lantern. Glue white paper hearts on a sheet of red paper. Make sure hearts are completely covered with glue. Then fold paper lengthwise and cut slits in fold, stopping about 1" from edge of paper. Open paper. Glue ends together and add heart-shaped handle. **James W. Perrin, Jr.**

4 Hearty little people are fun to construct from bits of paper and odds and ends. Folded and curled paper may be attached to make legs, arms, or exotic hair styles. Bits of paper doilies and candy papers are some other possible trims. **James W. Perrin, Jr.**

5 Blotto hearts are eye-catchingly different with their bold use of different colors. Fold paper in half. Unfold it and place flat. With a brush full of tempera, paint half a heart on one side of paper. Close paper and blot. Repeat until paper is all filled in. **Dorothy Gordon**



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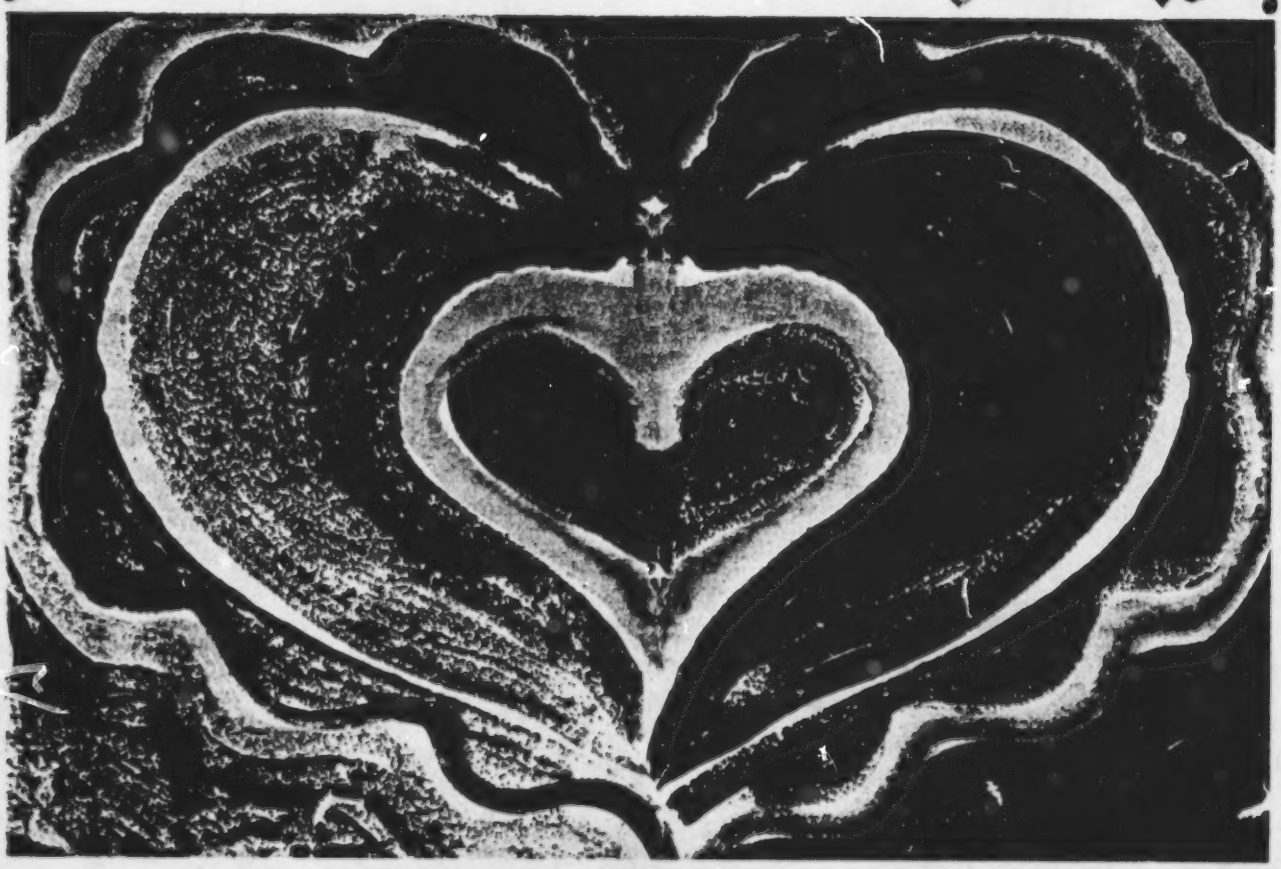
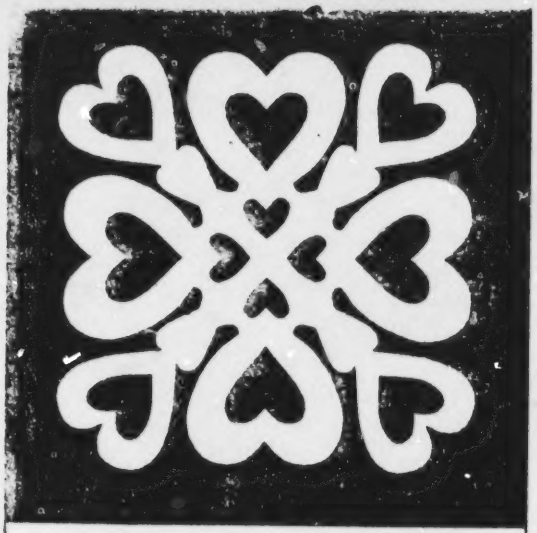
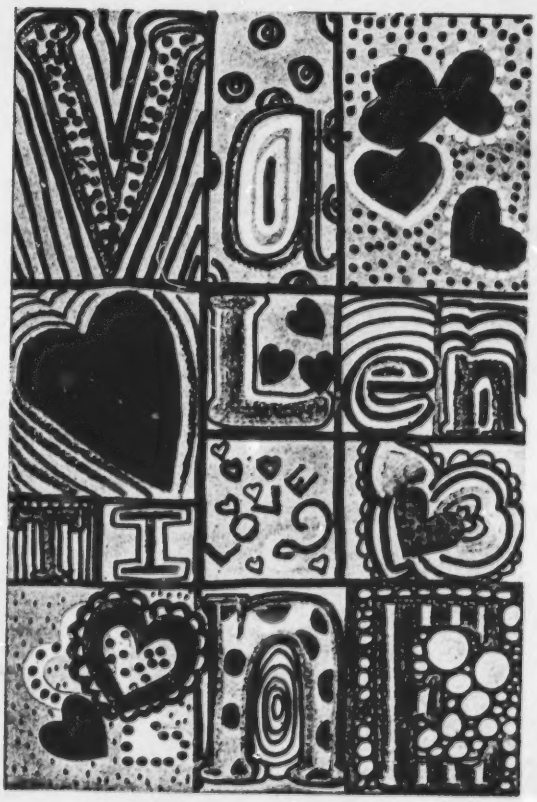




HEART-TO-HEART ART

Lacy cutouts are made by folding a square of typing paper three times to make a triangle, then cutting different heart shapes from the two folded sides. The unfolded square is then glued flat on a contrasting background. **Broken hearts** are created by cutting interesting pieces from a cutout heart and putting them together again on a different background, leaving small spaces between each piece.

Kathleen Decker is art supervisor in Prospect Heights District #23, Illinois.



Valentines emphasizing letterforms have a contemporary appearance. Design by dividing paper into at least 14 squares and rectangles. Then paint one letter of the word "Valentine" in each section, skipping spaces whenever desired, to achieve a random arrangement. Fill remaining spaces. Make a **layered-look design** by mounting a cutout sheet of paper over a solid one and painting inside the cutout shapes with a cotton swab dipped in tempera paint. Cutouts can be heart-shaped, round, or rectangular.

Ireene Robbins teaches art in Bayville Schools, New York.

Heartthrobs

1. Fold-and-cut heart art can be simple or extremely intricate. Try to get youngsters to let scissors wander freely in the same way that they use their crayons when they do scribble-type exercises. Once the initial design is cut, glue it on another contrasting paper and cut around it, leaving thick and thin borders. Mount the two layers on a third background color and embellish open areas with separate small cutouts.
Julie Roman

2. Teach children to identify small, medium, and large hearts as they make this valentine butterfly. Use short length of doweling or a tongue depressor for body. Place small hearts on ends of a bent pipe cleaner for antennae. Glue medium heart on front for head and two other medium hearts on back for second set of wings. Glue large hearts in center for primary set of wings.
Nancy C. Brown

3. This rose is made from air-drying clay, glued to a red cardboard heart, trimmed with green fabric leaves cut with pinking scissors. Roll clay flat and cut oval petal shapes. Form first petal into a cone and pinch together at base. Add petals, one at a time, around it and press together to hold. Up to ten petals can be added. Let rose dry, paint, glue to cardboard, let glue dry and add cutout leaves last.
Gisela Odhner

4. Fold and cut a string of paper hearts going from large to small. Remove center from largest heart and trim to make slightly smaller. Repeat to make quite a small solid heart. Reassemble, keeping fold line on each heart centered. Glue a piece of red yarn down center of all hearts on fold line. Cover yarn by gluing smaller foil and paper hearts over it. Decorate back of all and hang.
Betty Robbins

5. For this really "outstanding" valentine, do some simple quilling. Cut paper strips, curl around a pencil and glue to paper for stem and leaves. Add blossom made from concentric hearts. Write a tender message on the back.
Vera Stiles

6. Build a fortress of love for your special valentine. On a scrap-wood base, glue together towers of wooden spools and dowels. Paint with bright tempera or acrylic. Glue on tiny paper-heart windows and flags of many colors.
James W. Perrin, Jr.

7. Real lace is no longer affordable for creating ornate valentines, but free lace is as near as the closest box of crayons. With scallops, points, circles, and curlicues, draw around the edges of layered paper hearts to obtain the sumptuous appearance of traditional lace-trimmed greetings.
Irene Robbins

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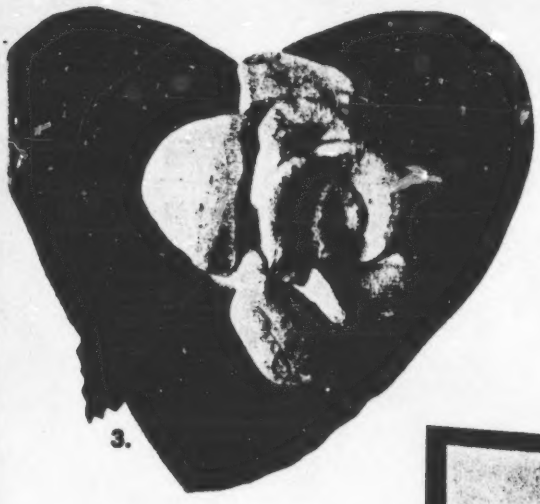

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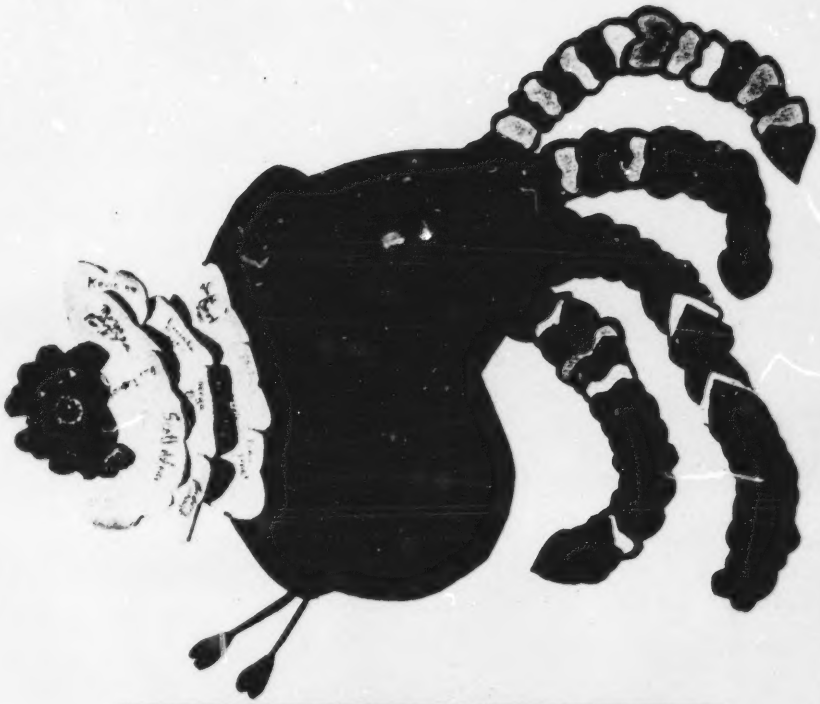
SHOW A LITTLE LOVE

CLASS VALENTINE

Paste together a very large fantasy bird, beast, or fish made entirely of different-sized hearts. Cut hearts from colored paper, overlap to build forms, and outline with marker. Have each child sign one heart and present completed creation to someone the class thinks special.

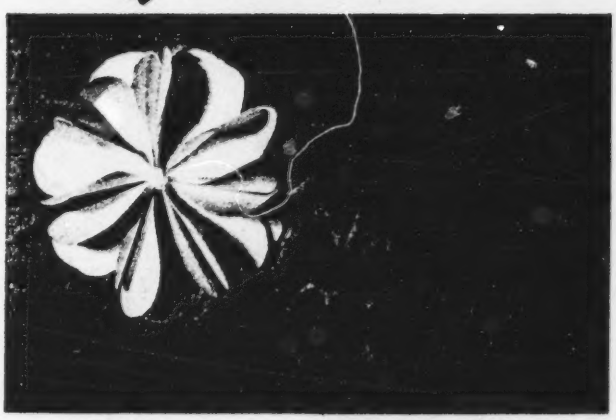
GISELLE ODHNER



FOLD-A-HEART CARD

Cut folded-heart petals, overlap in layers, and paste together to make a giant 3-D bloom on this simple card. Add yarn center and cut-paper decoration.

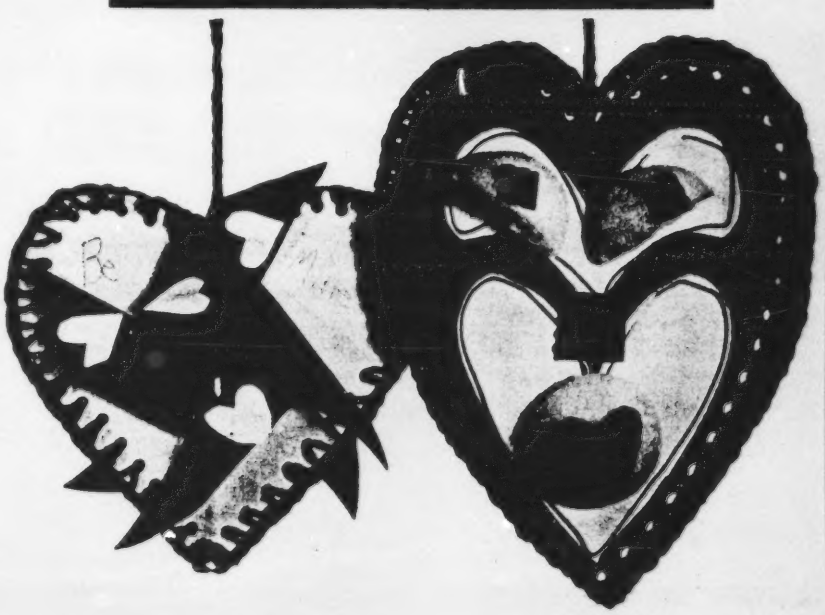
JACQUELINE KOURY



STITCHED HANG-UPS

Cut two identical paper hearts. Hold together and punch evenly spaced holes around the outside edge of shape. Use the buttonhole stitch or single crochet with red yarn to keep hearts together. Decorate both sides of stitched heart with paper pinwheels or pieces of plastic foam and paper cutouts. Hang with same yarn used for edging.

HELEN THOMAS



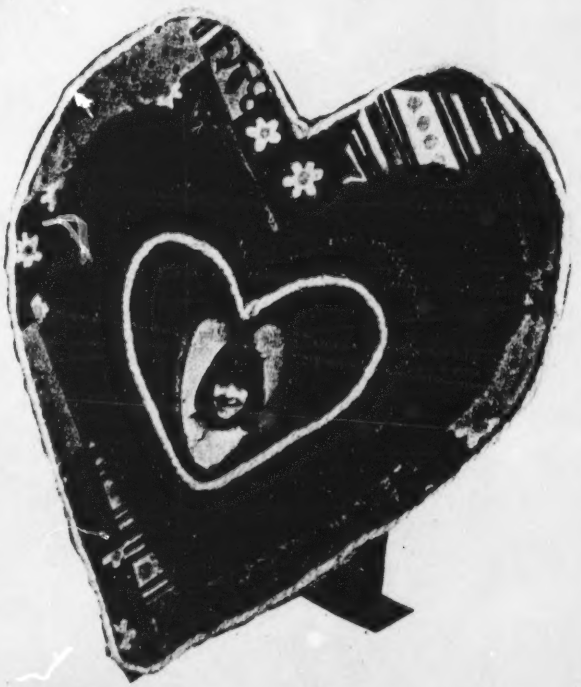
INSTRUCTOR v88 n7 p140 Feb. 1979

Hearts Delight

Six-way surpr'se

FOLD red paper and cut three identical hearts. Stack together, run a very narrow line of glue down fold-lines of two bottom hearts. After glue is dry, fold heart halves over like book pages. Cut six designs from white paper and glue across each opened heart. Punch hole for loop of red yarn. Surprise that special someone by hanging the heart on his or her doorknob, chair post, or coat hook.

James W. Perrin, Jr. teaches third grade at Boulevard School, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



Valentine frame-up

TO CRAFT this special valentine cut three heart patterns from scrap paper. Make them large, medium, and small. Trace large heart on a piece of cardboard covered with print fabric. (Wallpaper paste works well for this.) Cut around outline. Trace and cut medium and small hearts from two different-colored pieces of burlap. Center these and paste on large heart. Mount a photo in the middle and outline with yarn. Bend cardboard and glue to the back to make a stand.

Joan Lunich is an art specialist at the Elwood Community Consolidated School, Elwood, Illinois.

Hearts Delight

Heart twists

COLLECT the small paper-covered wire twists used to close plastic bags, and turn them into clever valentine designs. Bend and roll these candy-striped strips to form flowers, arrows, tiny hearts and other motifs. Attach them with clear-drying white glue to red paper hearts. Write greetings on the backs of hearts. (If striped strips are not available, use plain ones.)

Doris Breiholz is a former elementary teacher, now a children's writer living in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota.

Giant greetings

SUPER-size hearts can be cut from folded pieces of plain manila drawing paper, then covered in bright free-form patches of color and lettered sentiments. Keep color distribution nearly symmetrical, if possible. This is a good approach for the older class that considers making lacy heart-and-flower cards childish and silly.

Helen Randall teaches elementary art at Longfellow School, Oak Park, Illinois.

Paper pendant

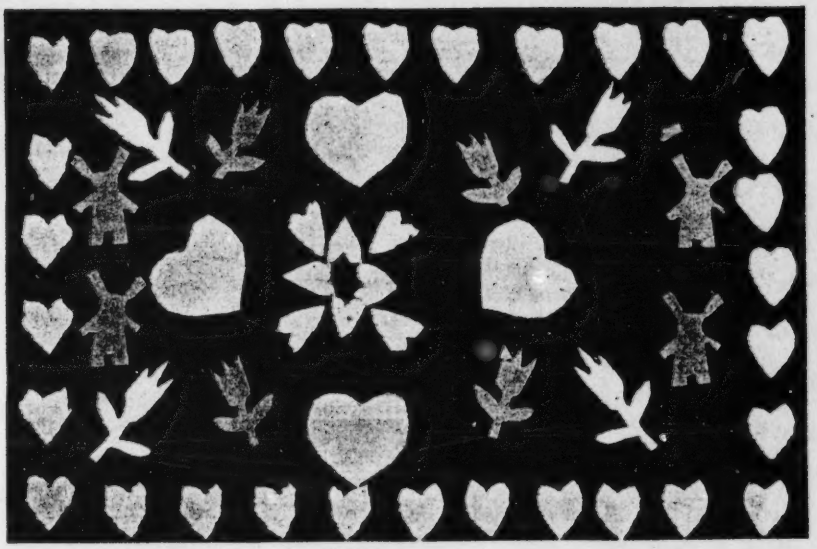
YOUNGSTERS delight in wearing special holiday motifs. Cut a ½-inch slice from any lightweight cardboard tube. Decorate with paint or paper. Cut out two hearts that just fit the circle and glue to edge of front and back. Decorate and hang from a 26-inch length of yarn. **Doris Breiholz**

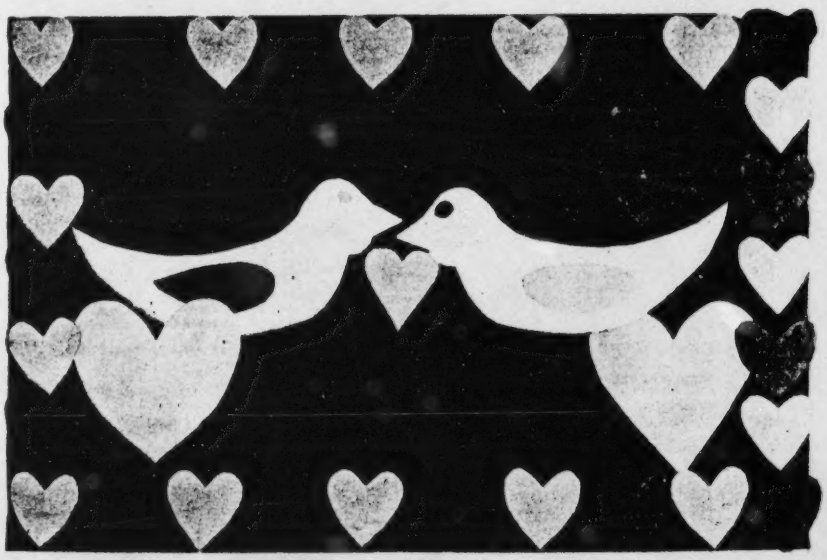
Penn Dutch designs

DID you know there is a traditional art form that features the heart in almost every one of its designs? The folk-art design of the Pennsylvania Dutch incorporates the heart motif in both obvious and subtle ways. After studying some examples, let children select bright sheets of colored paper to use in cut-paper versions of these tulip, heart, bird, and geometric arrangements. **Amy Schaper** teaches sixth grade at the Hergo F. Buder School, Saint Ann, Missouri.

Cover creations

TURN plastic covers from coffee cans, ice cream, margarine, and other containers into 3-D valentines. Add numerals, letters, brass fasteners, bits of cardboard and other odds and ends to lids to change them into large clocks or watches bearing "timely" Saint Valentine messages, or "stop" your recipient right in his or her tracks with an appropriate traffic sign greeting. **Jacqueline Koury** is a retired teacher from Arcadia, California.





Loveable Cards

1 PHOTOGRAPHS can inspire unusual valentine messages. Have youngsters clip magazine pictures that interest them, such as food, animal, or action shots. Then have them think up clever phrases to tie in pictures with suitable Saint Valentine's Day messages. Paste pictures on cutout paper hearts and letter with markers.

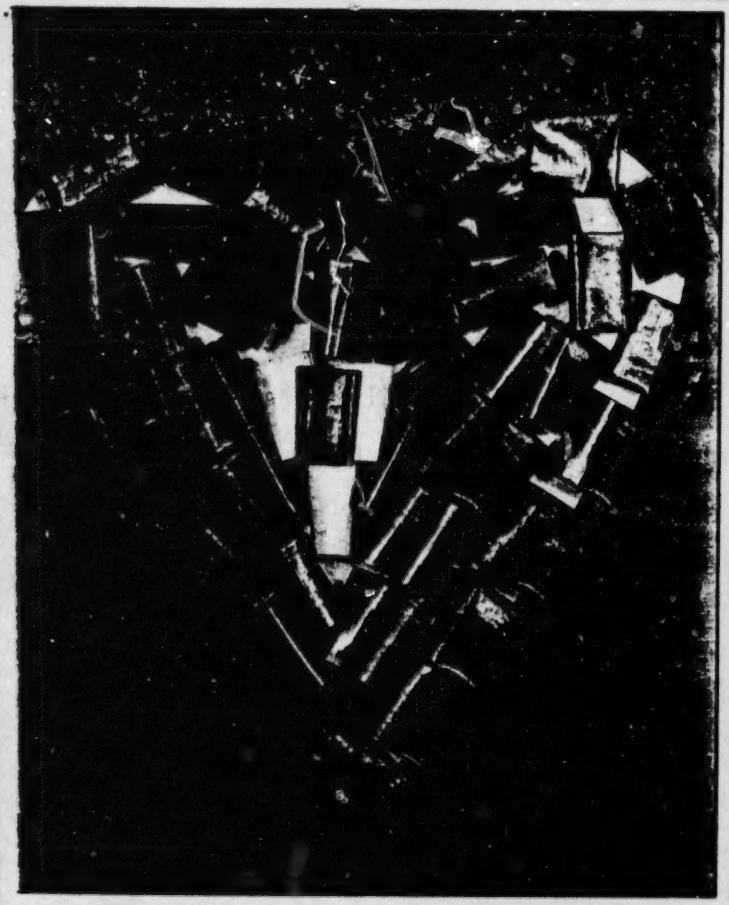
2 Rolls of colored "lick and stick" tape may be used in various ways by the valentine artist. Here a large heart is covered with individual loops of tape, used in a mosaiclike way to fill the entire area. The color blending is rich and effective, and the raised loops contribute a texture that is unique.

3 Block printing with a foam meat tray: Trim edges from tray and imprint a design directly on the tray with a blunt pencil. Ink with tempera paint (mixed with a little soap if it won't stick) or block printing ink and then press tray onto plain paper. If your design has a written message then you'll have to do the lettering in reverse on the tray or you will get a mirror image. ***JOAN LUNICH***

4 Send your "funny valentine" a fuzzy greeting accented with jute twine. Use natural or colored shades and achieve different effects by knotting, braiding, and snipping short pieces of this inexpensive, readily available cord. Use any durable craft glue to attach twine to paper. Letter with markers.

5 Repeat tiny circles, squares, triangles, and other shapes to form borders, motifs, and lettering on white paper hearts. Draw shapes with fine-line marking pens in shades of red and pink. Very tiny shapes give a lacy look.
DORIS BREIHOLZ

 V91 N6



To My
Be Mine

HAPPY VALENTINE
WITH LOVE SHERRY

BE MINE

Take Heart! A valentine

How seven futuristic kids traveled back in time and discovered the charm of Valentine's Day

Dennis Andersen

Time: February 14, 2100
Place: A school room in a space colony that orbits the Milky Way. Each student is working diligently at a computer.

Teacher *(enters):* Good morning, students.
Students: Good morning, teacher.
Teacher: Today we will complete our history unit on the planet Earth in the twentieth century. Each of you has been working on a special report. Now it's time to share what you've discovered. Student 043B, will you begin?
Student 043B: I did my report on how Earth children learned in the 1980s. It was quite . . . unusual.
Teacher: What do you mean by unusual?
Student 043B: Although they had some computers, students still used primitive learning tools called books. *(Holds up a picture of a book)* Here's what they looked like.
(The students laugh at the picture.)
Teacher: Students, please. It's true that Earthlings had some rather unusual customs. But that's no reason to make fun of them. Student 2902, what did you learn?
Student 2902: From what I could tell, Earth children ate something called food instead of nourishment pills as we do. One of their favorite foods was pizza. *(Holds up a picture of a pizza)* It was made of tomato paste, cheese, and dough.
Students: Yecch! Poor kids! That sounds sickening!
Teacher: Student 7819C . . .
Student 7819C: I looked into the ways an average child spent his or her day. It seems that children way back then played something called video games.
Teacher: Can you explain what these games might have been?
Student 7819C: They seem to have been some crude form of electronic stimulation. Children in 1983 especially liked ones called Pac-Man and Ms. Pac-Man, and played them many Earth hours each day.
Student 2902: Was it a form of punishment?
Student 7819C: They seem to have done it for . . . fun. *(Looks at notes)* Yes, fun. That's the word they used.
Student 5624: What *is* fun?
Teacher: Fun is an old-fashioned idea that we no longer believe in. It's a terrible waste of time. Student 5624, what did you learn about Earth children of the 1980s?
Student 5624: I was most surprised to learn that they were not given identification numbers at birth—only labels they called names.
Student 1539: Like what?
Student 5624: Some popular girls' names were Jane, Wendy, Carolyn, and Debbie.
Student 3333: They sound so . . . weird.
Student 5624: Some popular boys' names were Paul, John, Kevin, and David.
Student 4001D: How horrible! Imagine going through life with such strange-sounding labels!
Student 3333: I'd never want to have lived way back in the 1980s.
Student 4001D: It would have been torture.
Teacher: Student 1539, what did you learn?
Student 1539: Well, I'm very confused by what I found.

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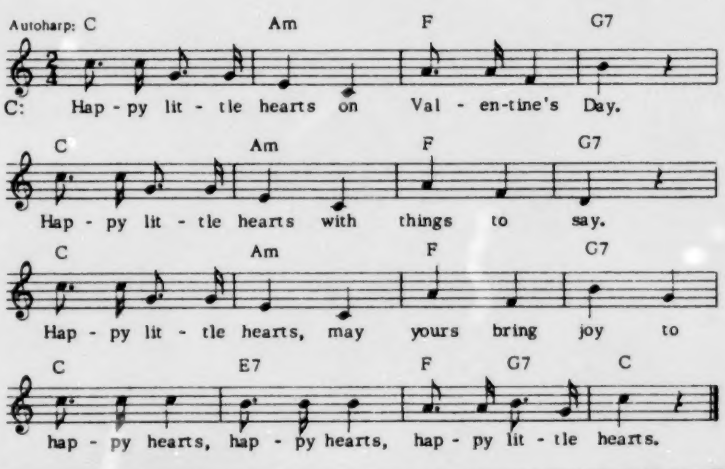
sampler • Take Heart! A

Teacher: What do you mean?
Student 1539: It seems that sometimes Earth students had something they called . . . parties.
Students: Parties? What are they?
Teacher: Tell us more.
Student 1539: I'm not sure. I don't understand what a party was exactly.
Student 043B: Was it a subject they studied?
Student 1539: No—but it happened in their classroom.
Student 7819C: Was it an individual activity?
Student 1539: No, students did it together.
Student 5624: Did they learn how to do it from their teacher?
Student 1539: No. Students seemed to know how to do it without any instruction.
Teacher: Students, to help us better understand this bit of history, let's use our historon. Press the historon control units on your computers. We will be traveling back in time—exactly 117 years—to a classroom on planet Earth on February 14, 1983. *(There is a strange whirring noise. Lights flash. Suddenly, the 2100 students find themselves observing a 1983 classroom. The 1983 students are seated at their desks finishing some work.)*
Mr. Jones: Okay, class, is your work completed?
1983 Students: Yes, sir!
Mr. Jones: Then it's time for our Valentine's Day party!
William: Hooray! This is going to be fun! I love parties.
(The 1983 students show real excitement as they prepare for and enjoy their party.)
Mr. Jones: Let's start with the decorations. Mary Ann, help me put up the hearts. I'll twist the crepe-paper. David, you draw some cupids on the chalkboard. *(The 1983 students begin to decorate.)*
Debbie: Ooh! Everything looks beautiful!
Mr. Jones: Time to exchange valentines.
Peter: Listen to this one: "I love you, I love you, I love you so well. If I had a peanut, I'd give you the shell."
(Everyone laughs. The 1983 students ad lib as they exchange valentines.)
Mr. Jones: Let's not forget the refreshments.
Mary Ann: I brought chocolate cupcakes for everyone.
Debbie: Oh, look! Each one has a heart with a name on it.
Mr. Jones: Has anybody got a good joke?
Paul: I do. What's the canary's favorite Valentine's song?
Jill: I give up.
Paul: "Let Me Call You Tweetheart."
(Everybody laughs.)
Elizabeth: I brought my Ms. Pac-Man game. Anybody want to play?
(One at a time, each child says "I do," except Barbara.)
Barbara: No thanks! I'd rather have another cupcake. *(The 1983 students laugh.)*
(Suddenly the 1983 teacher and students are frozen.)
Teacher: Students, it's time for us to return to 2100. Adjust your portable historon panel.
(Students press a hand-held control. There is a strange whirring noise. Lights flash. Suddenly the 2100 students and teacher are back in their classroom.)

Teacher: Now do you understand what a party was?
Students *(strangely quiet):* Yes . . . .
Teacher: And can you see how parties were a terrible waste of time?
Students *(Hesitantly):* Yes . . . .
Teacher: Any other observations?
Student 2902: It was silly . . . but . . . I wouldn't mind making valentines.
Student 043B: Me either.
Student 4001D: I don't know; fun may be an old-fashioned idea . . . but I like it.
Students: Me, too.
Student 2902: And I like parties.
Students: Me, too.
Student 7819C: Maybe 1983 kids had it better than we thought.
Student 3333: Wait! I have an idea. Let's travel back and join the party. May we, teacher?
Teacher: Well, if you really want to.
Student 4001: Oh, boy! Maybe we can trade some nutrition pills for chocolate cupcakes!
(The 2100 students press the historon controls. There is a strange whirring noise. Lights flash. The students find themselves back in the 1983 classroom.)
2100 Students: Happy Valentine's Day!
(The 1983 students look a little surprised. But the 2100 students join in the festivities with enthusiasm, and soon the 1983 students accept the visitors as if they've walked in from next door. The party is at its height as the curtain falls.) □

Happy little hearts

JOSEPH J. KENNEDY III


Autoharp: C Am F G7
C: Hap - py lit - tle hearts on Val - en-tine's Day.
C Am F G7
Hap - py lit - tle hearts with things to say.
C Am F G7
Hap - py lit - tle hearts, may yours bring joy to
C E7 F G7 C
hap - py hearts, hap - py hearts, hap - py lit - tle hearts.

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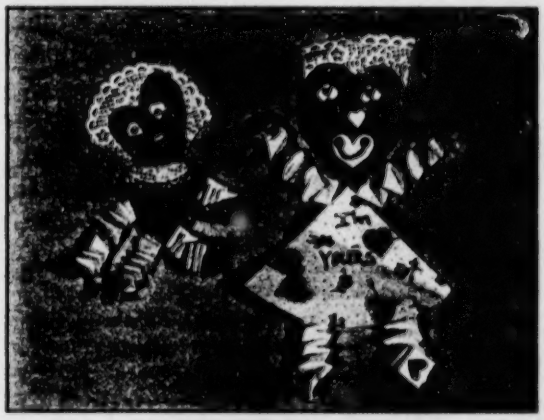
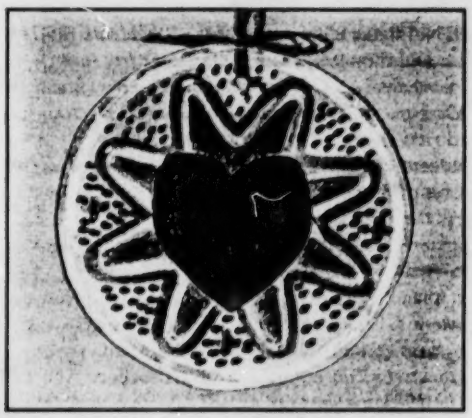
Heart art

HEARTY people are put together from hearts glued to folded paper strings, doilies, and bits of wallpaper. Markers add detail. **NANCY HOWELL**

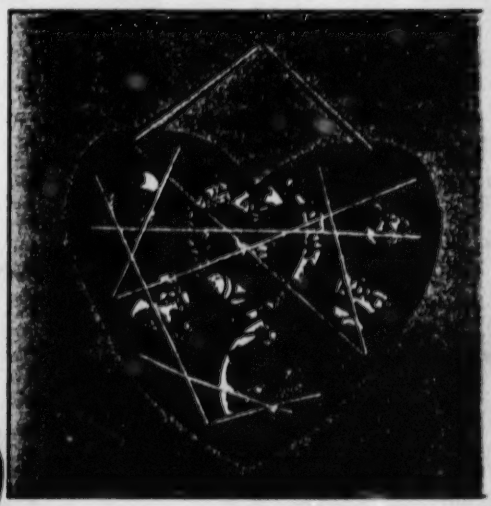


HANG-UP valentine is made from a circle cut from an aluminum pie pan and felt pieces. Permanent markers add detail. **IREENE ROBBINS**



CARDBOARD heart, decorated with paint and wallpaper samples, is a colorful base for random yarn design crisscrossed from slits. **JOAN MACEY**

HAPPY valentine holders are made by cutting a loveable pet out of colored paper. Glue or staple on heart pocket, leaving top open for cards. Use strong paper. **SUE KREIBICH**



Heart! A valent

Sweet send-offs

There it is again this year, that cute puppy staring at us and saying, "Dog-gone, be my valentine," and there's that same haggard old lady crooning, "Witch you were mine." If you're as tired of these cards as we are, maybe it's time to make some new valentines. New valentines with an old twist, that is. Here's how to make the kind grandma might have sent to grandpa.

To protect furniture from messy spills and spatters, spread several layers of newspaper on a flat surface and use this spot as your work area. Then out of lightweight cardboard, cut a two- or three-inch design.

Fold a three-by-five-inch index card in half, widthwise, and position the cardboard cutout on the card, where you would like to see the design appear.

Now put a tablespoon of water and a few drops of the food coloring of your choice in a small bowl. Continue to add drops of food coloring until you reach the brightness you want. (Darker colors work best.)

Hold a tea strainer over your card, with rounded side up. Dip a toothbrush in the liquid color, and with firm, quick strokes, brush the top of the strainer, much like you brush your teeth. The liquid color will sprinkle through the strainer, causing a speckled effect on your card.

Let the card dry, lift the cardboard design piece, and you will see a beautifully painted card—one that no one will be able to duplicate exactly.

Now you're ready to write a verse inside that has the charm (or silliness) of yesteryear. Here are a few "hand-me-downs" that older members of the family may remember.

For a friend:
Some trees are green.
The ocean is blue.
I don't like some things,
But I like you.

For your "special" friend
The sun shines in the light.
The moon shines in the blue.
But as for my light,
It'll always shine for you.

For a zany friend:
Roses are red.
Violets are blue.
I kissed a cow
And thought of you.

Or:
Love many.
Trust a few.
But always paddle
Your own canoe.

Or:
If you don't like my apples,
Don't shake my tree.

If these don't suit your students' fancy, encourage them to write their own verse. If they need a little prodding, here's an idea. Ask kids to first list different occupations and then words that are associated with each. Then ask them to write short verses "employing" such "occupational" vocabulary. Following are a few examples.

Banker
On account of this special day,
It may be of interest to say,
Deposits of candy and flowers
Will shortly be coming your way.

Weather reporter
Hark! Fair warning!
Cupid's arrows are storming.
The forecast is romance;
Escape the tempest? Not a chance!

When students have completed their valentines, they will have cards to be proud of. And their loved ones will know by the speckles on their faces and hands that a part of them went into every one.

Sandra Murphy Mitchell
Olga Cahill